

Week Ahead

Legislative Focus: State-Run IRA Regulations, Confirmation Hearings and Congressional Review Act Resolutions

The House is expected to vote on at least five Congressional Act Resolutions, including two blocking regulations granting states and local governments the flexibility to establish auto-individual retirement accounts (IRA) for non-governmental employees whose employers do not offer employee-sponsored IRAs. The rule is anticipated to impact over 25 states considering the creation of state-facilitated retirement savings plans for small business employees, and seven states with state-established auto-IRAs that could take advantage of the regulation's flexibility. States that could be impacted by the regulation repeal include California, Connecticut, Illinois, New Jersey, Oregon, Maryland and Massachusetts. Read more on state auto-IRAs here.

This week the Senate is expected to continue consideration of President Trump's cabinet picks, with votes on Steven Mnuchin for Secretary of the Treasury, David Shulkin for Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Linda McMahon for Small Business Administration head scheduled on Monday and Tuesday. The Senate could reportedly bring up the nomination of Rick Perry to be Secretary of Energy and Ryan Zinke to be Secretary of the Interior for votes later in the week. The Senate could also move ahead with Congressional Review Act challenges that are intended to eliminate a number of late-term executive orders issued by President Obama.

Senate Floor:

The Senate will convene at noon for continued consideration of the nomination of Steven Mnuchin to be Secretary of the Treasury and David Shulkin to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs. Votes are expected at 7:00 p.m. ET.

House Floor:

The House will convene at noon to consider four veterans bills under suspension of the rules.

Senate Armed Services Committee

- Full committee closed briefing on "Long-term Defense Challenges and Strategies." Tuesday, Feb. 14, 9:30 a.m.

- Personnel Subcommittee hearing on "Department of Defense Single Servicemember and Military Family Readiness Programs." Tuesday, Feb. 14, 2:30 p.m.

Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee

- Full committee hearing on "The Semiannual Monetary Policy Report to Congress," witnesses include Federal Reserve Chairwoman Janet Yellen. Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m.

Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation

- Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Infrastructure, Safety, and Security Subcommittee hearing on "Moving America: Stakeholder Perspectives on our Multimodal Transportation System." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 2:30 p.m.

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Modernization of the Endangered Species Act." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.

Senate Finance Committee

- Full committee hearing on the nomination of Seema Verma to be the administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services. Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

Senate Foreign Relations Committee

- Full committee hearing to consider the nomination of David Friedman to be U.S. ambassador to Israel. Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee

- Full committee hearing on nomination of Andy Puzder to be Labor secretary. Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

House Agriculture Committee

- Full committee hearing on "Rural Economic Outlook: Setting the State for the Next Farm Bill." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.
- Full committee hearing on "Pros and Cons of Restricting SNAP Purchases." Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

House Education and the Workforce Committee

- Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee hearing on "Restoring Balance and Fairness to the National Labor Relations Board." Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m.

- Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education Subcommittee hearing on "Providing Vulnerable Youth the Hope of a Brighter Future Through Juvenile Justice Reform." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.
- Workforce Protections Subcommittee hearing on "Federal Wage and Hour Policies in the Twenty-First Century Economy." Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

House Energy and Commerce

- Digital Commerce and Consumer Protection Subcommittee hearing on "Self-Driving Cars: Road to Deployment." Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10:15 a.m.
- Energy Subcommittee hearing on "Modernizing Energy and Electricity Delivery Systems: Challenges and Opportunities to Promote Infrastructure Improvement and Expansion." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.
- Environment Subcommittee hearing on "Modernizing Environmental Laws: Challenges and Opportunities for Expanding Infrastructure and Promoting Development and Manufacturing." Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

House Homeland Security Committee

- Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communications Subcommittee hearing on "The Future of FEMA: Stakeholder Recommendations for the Next Administrator." Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m.

House Judiciary Committee

- Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law Subcommittee hearing on H.R.372, the "Competitive Health Insurance Reform Act of 2017." Thursday, Feb. 16, 10 a.m.

House Science, Space and Technology Committee

- Research and Technology Subcommittee hearing on "Strengthening U.S. Cybersecurity Capabilities." Tuesday, Feb. 14, 10 a.m.
- Energy Subcommittee hearing on "Risky Business: The DOE Loan Guarantee Program." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.

House Transportation and Infrastructure

- Aviation Subcommittee hearing on "Building a 21st Century Infrastructure for America: State of American Aviation Manufacturing." Wednesday, Feb. 15, 10 a.m.

Michigan Newsmakers

Rep. Bill Huizenga (MI-02)
MLive—February 8th, 2017
Huizenga Bill Lifting SEC Requirement Awaits Trump's Signature
West Michigan Congressman Bill Huizenga's first bill of the year could soon be signed into law.

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